

people who have warned patients of the danger of taking bromide lest they should create a habit, and I have seen many patients who have been prevented from having the benefit of the drug because of this fear.—I am, etc.,

London, W., Feb. 19th.

J. MACKENZIE.

\*\*\* We are glad to publish this explanation, for the reports of the case in the newspapers were concordant as to the reference to morphine, but were discordant in attributing to Sir James Mackenzie the opinion that the craving might exist for bromide.

#### DIET, STARCH, AND SUGAR.

SIR,—In answer to Dr. H. Campbell's question respecting the diet of diabetic patients previous to the onset of the disease, I think we have grounds for considering that excess of sugar and sweet food is probably injurious, but that a diet of starchy food is not specially injurious as a predisposing cause, or, at least, is much less injurious.—I am, etc.,

Manchester, Feb. 18th.

R. T. WILLIAMSON.

#### POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENTS OF TRANSFUSIONS.

SIR,—Anyone who has carried out a series of transfusions by the multiple syringe method must be impressed by the total absence of injury to the donors. One man has given blood from the same vein upon eight occasions, and expressed himself willing to continue at intervals of fourteen days for an indefinite period. The patient, too, suffers little or no inconvenience. A register of suitable donors, classified under their blood groups, is being prepared at the London Hospital, in order that all cases in which transfusions are indicated may be treated without delay.

These advantages led me to suggest that in cases of severe infection, in which the patient derives no benefit from injections of vaccine, it would be wise to obtain a donor of the same blood group as the patient, and give him injections of the patient's autogenous vaccine. When an immunity has been developed a series of transfusions might be given. The dose would be multiples of 600 c.cm. and not of 10 c.cm., so that even if the concentration of the antibodies in the blood be low, nevertheless a considerable quantity would be introduced.

It must be borne in mind that rabbits and horses do not develop much antibody for streptococci, but it does not follow that man, too, is unable to make these substances.

The procedure is so simple that it must have occurred to many, and perhaps those who have carried it out would be willing to record their results, giving every detail, so that time need not be wasted repeating experiments if they have already proved unsuccessful.

The idea is capable of further development, and perhaps some day we shall reduce still further the mortality due to diphtheria and tetanus by having donors immunized against these bacilli, and using their blood for transfusions in cases of very weak children, and when previous injections of horse serum would lead to anaphylaxis, or serum sickness to fatal results.—I am, etc.,

London, W., Feb. 15th.

O. LEYTON.

#### PROPHYLAXIS IN VENEREAL DISEASE: ITS FALLACIES.

SIR,—The experience of Mr. E. B. Turner, F.R.C.S., which you published last week, is most helpful, and his conclusions are exactly those to which I have been driven.

Incalculable evil will be done both to the army and the civil population if we profess to be able to divest indiscriminate intercourse of its inevitable dangers.—I am, etc.,

February 17th.

J. C. McWALTER, M.D., Captain,  
Specialist Sanitary Officer.

#### THE AUXILIARY R.A.M.C. FUNDS (OFFICERS' BENEVOLENT BRANCH).

SIR,—May I correct an error in your note on this subject on p. 217 of the JOURNAL for February 16th? There is no rule that orphans of officers who are non-subscribers shall have no claim on the benefits of the Fund. The orphans of any of the specified R.A.M.C. officers are eligible to receive benefits.

During 1917, 125 officers whose orphans would be eligible were killed, and there must have been large numbers in 1916 and 1915. Claims on the Fund will be gladly considered if addressed to the Honorary Secretary at the offices of the Funds, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1.

The Fund (Officers' Benevolent Branch) is for the benefit of orphans of R.A.M.C. officers in the Special Reserve, Territorials, and those holding temporary commissions.—I am, etc.,

W. HALE WHITE, Colonel R.A.M.C.(T.),  
London, W., Feb. 18th. Honorary Secretary.

\*\*\* We are glad to know that this rule, which appeared in the draft scheme, has been deleted.

## Obituary.

THE death has occurred of Dr. WILLIAM JOSEPH SEWARD, formerly medical superintendent of Colney Hatch Asylum. He received his professional education at University College Hospital, and obtained the M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. diplomas in 1875, graduating M.B.Lond. in the following year. In 1878, immediately after completing house appointments at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, he was appointed assistant to Mr. W. G. Marshall at Colney Hatch. Later he became assistant to Dr. Edgar Sheppard, one of the first lecturers on psychological medicine at a London medical school. In 1882, when barely thirty years of age, he succeeded Dr. Sheppard as the medical superintendent. When the London County Council assumed the government of the London (then the Middlesex) Asylums under the Local Government Act of 1890, Dr. Seward was appointed, upon the retirement of Mr. Marshall, to be the administrative medical head of the whole institution, taking over the care of both the male and female sections, and thus ending what had until then been a dual control. During his period of service was inaugurated the After-care Association for the rehabilitation into social life of those patients who had been discharged recovered, and he continued throughout his life to take the deepest interest in the society's welfare, as he also did in the Asylum Workers' Association, of which he was a member of the executive committee. In January, 1903, a destructive fire occurred in the new wooden annexe, adjacent to the main buildings of Colney Hatch, which was demolished in about an hour. In this fire fifty-one female patients lost their lives and the rest were saved with difficulty. This disaster cast a deep shadow upon Dr. Seward's life, and he never recovered from the shock.

Sir ROBERT ARMSTRONG-JONES, to whom we are indebted for the foregoing particulars, writes as follows:

The treatment of the insane under Seward's régime was always one of enlightened and disinterested progress, and the writer of this article is under the greatest obligations to the memory of his old chiefs, Marshall and Seward, for their high example of devotion and attachment to their patients, whilst the welfare of the staff never escaped either of them. Alcohol, in the shape of beer, was abolished as an article of diet under Seward; the Turkish bath for restoring mental patients was first used there; organo-therapy was encouraged by him, and the aid of clinical pathology with the application of the microscope were all adjuncts in treatment which were of intense interest to Seward, and they continued to be aspects in the practice of medicine which engaged his leisure and retirement, for he was a frequent visitor at the meetings of the Royal Society of Medicine, of which he was a Fellow. Seward was an "intermediary" between the old school and the new research one first started in the London asylums by Sir William J. Collins. Nothing was irksome to Seward, and his mind may be described as healthy in the best sense. He was a Mason, and a member of the London County Council Lodge. He was a keen angler, and was devoted to Norway, where he used to fish, and to Switzerland, where he made many walking tours. He liked a game of whist, and he was a real cricketer—preferring rather to play in a small match than to watch the great ones—although he was often seen at Lord's. He was fond of pictures; and rarely missed an exhibition in Bond Street; he was

devoted to his garden, and he delighted in the cultivation of roses, whilst he derived great pleasure from the meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society. Seward's mind was not that of a controversialist, indeed he rather disliked debated questions, but he always expressed his opinions—which were well considered—both critically and fearlessly. His great charm was his complete detachment from bias—he had cultivated the bias of anti-bias more than any other man of the writer's acquaintance, and he was a most genial, well-informed and cheerful personality. He always maintained the complete confidence and friendship of his committee as well as of their officials.

DR. GEORGE STOKES HATTON, who died on January 15th at Wimborne, Dorset, was for many years a well-known practitioner in North Staffordshire, until failing health caused his retirement to the South of England. After studying medicine at St. Thomas's Hospital and at Newcastle-on-Tyne, he obtained the diplomas of L.S.A. in 1879 and M.R.C.S. in 1880, and graduated M.B., M.S. Durh., proceeding M.D. in 1882. In 1894 he became F.R.C.S. Edin. Dr. Hatton held resident posts at the North Staffordshire Infirmary, and, on his leaving there, joined Dr. Orton in practice at Newcastle-under-Lyme. He was soon appointed to the assistant staff as surgeon to the infirmary, and in turn became full surgeon, and then was appointed consulting surgeon on leaving the district. Dr. Hatton was a successful practitioner and possessed surgical skill and dexterity to a marked degree. His death will be regretted by a large circle of patients and friends in North Staffordshire.

THE death occurred on January 28th of Dr. GEORGE HENRY ECCLES, aged 76, who had practised in Plymouth for over fifty-five years. After studying at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Dr. Eccles obtained the M.R.C.S. diploma in 1862, the L.R.C.P. Edin. and the L.S.A. in 1865. Having held the post of house-surgeon at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, he set up in practice at Plymouth, where he held a considerable number of appointments as surgeon to charitable institutions. Dr. Eccles was a man of remarkably strong character and sacrificed much for his religious convictions. He leaves three sons in the medical profession: Dr. G. Tolcher Eccles, of Hove; Captain H. Nisbet Eccles, R.A.M.C.; and Captain G. Dunluce Eccles, R.A.M.C.

DR. WILLIAM CARDIFF HOSSACK, port health officer of Calcutta, died in Calcutta on January 5th. He was the eldest son of Mrs. Garden Milne Hossack, of St. Catherine's, Banff, and was educated at the University of Aberdeen, where he graduated M.B. and C.M., with honours, in 1894, and M.D. in 1898. For the last twenty years he had served in Bengal, where he had held the posts of special plague officer, health officer to the Corporation of Calcutta, district medical officer, and health officer of the port of Calcutta. He was the author of a monograph on the rats of Calcutta.

BRIGADE SURGEON JOHN LAW, Madras Medical Service (retired), died at Guildford on February 6th, aged 83. He was the second son of the late Thomas Hooper Law, of Barnstaple, and entered the I.M.S. as assistant surgeon on May 28th, 1858, becoming surgeon on May 28th, 1870, and surgeon-major on July 1st, 1873, and retiring, with a step of honorary rank, on February 1st, 1882. During the later part of his career he held the important appointment of residency surgeon, Haidarabad.

BRIGADE SURGEON WILLIAM JAMES WILSON, R.A.M.C. (ret.), died at Southsea on February 8th, aged 80. He was educated at Queen's College, Belfast, where he graduated M.D. in 1860, and took the diploma of M.R.C.S. in the same year; he entered the army as assistant surgeon on April 1st, 1861, became surgeon on March 1st, 1873, surgeon-major on April 1st, 1873, and retired as brigade surgeon on May 2nd, 1888. In the old regimental days he served in the 28th Foot, now the Gloucestershire Regiment, and later he commanded the station hospitals at Portsmouth in 1885-86, and at Mhow in 1887. He served in the Afghan war, in 1880-81, in the Southern Afghanistan Field Force; and in the Sudan in 1885, commanding No. 1 Bearer Company in the Suakin Field Force and receiving the medal with a clasp and the Khedive's bronze star.

DEPUTY INSPECTOR-GENERAL JAMES CRAWFORD DOW, R.N. (ret.), died recently at Bath of congestion of the lungs, the result of an accident, when he fell and broke his leg in a rough sea, returning from Australia last May. He was educated at Glasgow University, where he graduated M.B. and C.M. in 1870, and entered the navy soon after, attaining the rank of fleet surgeon on June 4th, 1893, and retiring, with a step of honorary rank, on September 21st, 1904.

## Universities and Colleges.

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

At a congregation held on February 16th the following medical degrees were conferred:

D.M.—W. R. Reynell (*in absentia*), G. T. Hebert.

### UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL.

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indication:

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—*Part I, including Forensic Medicine and Toxicology*: Elizabeth Casson, A. D. Symons. *Part I only*: B. A. Astley-Weston, A. G. Bodman, R. F. White.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

An ordinary Council was held on February 14th, when Colonel Charters Symonds, Vice-President, was in the chair.

Diplomas of membership were granted to eighty candidates found qualified at the recent examinations. Diplomas in Public Health were granted jointly with the Royal College of Physicians to two candidates found qualified.

The Begley Studentship was opened to women as well as to men.

A resolution having been passed by the College of Physicians for the omission of biology from the first professional examination, the subject was referred by the Council to a special committee for report.

The Secretary reported that, in pursuance of the provisions of the new by-laws, the date of the next Council election would be announced by advertisement and by circular on March 8th, and that March 18th would be the last day for the nomination of candidates.

### COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE council of the college has elected Dr. David Drummond to be president of the University of Durham College of Medicine, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in succession to the late Sir George Philipson, and the chancellor has appointed him pro-vice-chancellor of the university. Dr. Drummond graduated M.D. (Dubl.) in 1876, became physician to the Children's Hospital shortly afterwards, and in 1878 became physician and pathologist to the Royal Victoria Infirmary, and is now consulting physician. He is also joint professor of the principles and practice of medicine in the University of Durham. At the annual court of governors of the college he was elected vice-chairman. At the same meeting it was announced that the number of students at present in attendance was 168, or 26 more than a year ago. The number of women students has increased by 50 per cent., and they now form 25 per cent. of the total. Dr. F. H. A. Clayton has been appointed lecturer in bacteriology, and Dr. Helen G. Clark part-time assistant. The routine work of the department has been increased, as it has been arranged to conduct for a number of urban and local authorities the bacteriological investigations required by the Local Government Board under the venereal disease regulations. Additional accommodation has been provided at the cost of about £600.

### CONJOINT BOARD IN ENGLAND.

THE diplomas of L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S. have been conferred upon the following:

G. V. W. Anderson, Mary Andrews, H. C. Apperly, C. W. W. Armstrong, K. E. Attenborough, Loveday S. Banes, M. Baranov, E. R. Batho, C. C. Beney, P. F. Bishop, J. C. Blake, J. S. Buchnowitz, R. B. Britton, H. S. Bryan, F. Caldecott, G. T. Calthrop, J. D'A. Champney, H. A. Chodak, W. B. Christopherson, A. E. Clark-Keeney, C. B. Cohen, W. Collins, R. N. Craig, T. L. Crawhall, H. T. Cubbon, Jatindra Kumar Datta, C. Depla, A. R. Doyle, F. B. Dutton, F. N. V. Dyer, Abdel Aziz Hassan El-Zeniény, W. Feldman, A. F. M. Fuoss, G. H. Gidlow-Jackson, Eryl Glynnne, W. N. Goldschmidt, W. H. Grace, R. B. Green, W. S. Gross, W. M. Heald, J. M. Higginson, E. A. Holmes, J. Hope, H. B. Jackson, W. A. Jolliffe, D. M. Jones, J. W. Jones, M. E. Jones, T. P. Kilner, D. M. Lala, F. W. M. Lamb, J. G. Lawn, Marguerite F. J. Lowenfeld, G. E. MacAlevey, H. M. Menage, Daisy K. F. Michael, H. Millett, L. M. Moody, D. M. Muir, Annie S. Mules, P. M. Neighbour, Vijaya Shankar Rao Pandit, B. J. Papenfus, A. L. S. Payne, T. M. Payne, A. V. Pegge, A. Peine, Sybil M. G. Pratt, Joyce B. Reed, H. T. Rymer, H. M. Savery, C. K. Scales, G. A. S. Shacklock, B. E. Sharp, A. G. Shurlock, G. H. Sims, A. R. Tothill, J. T. Wall, A. S. Westmorland, E. Wolff, F. G. Wood.